

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAJ-01 ACDA-07 IO-13 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SCCT-01

SY-05 /093 W

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R 071739Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2728

INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 19795

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS FR AR BL BR CI UY SP

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL BRIGADE GIVES PRESS CONFERENCE

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. JUNE 30 EDITION OF RADICAL LEFT DAILY "LIBERATION" CARRIES APPARENTLY AUTHENTIC INTERVIEW BY PIERRE BENOIT OF UNIDENTIFIED SPOKESMAN FOR "INTERNATIONAL BRIGADE (BI)". SPOKESMAN, AFTER CLAIMING ORGANIZATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES FOR ASSASSINAT URUGUAYAN MILATT RAMON TRABAL IN 1974, BOLIVIAN AMBASSADOR ZENTENO AMAYO IN MAY 1976 AND AN ATTEMPT AGAINST SPANISH COLONEL GARCIA PLATA IN OCTOBER 1975, INSISTED THAT ALL MEMBERS OF THE BRIGADE WERE FRENCH CITIZENS.

2. IN COMMENTING ON THE INTERVIEW IN A FORWARD, BENOIT STRESSED THAT, WHILE THE BI SPOKESMAN CLAIMED TO BE ONLY TWO AND A HALF YEARS OLD, IN FACT ITS LANGUAGE AND

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INTEREST IN VIOLENCE ARE DRAWN FROM THE MOVEMENTS BORN

OF THE MAY 1968 REVOLUTIONARY PERIOD IN FRANCE. THE BI TOOK ITS CURRENT ROAD AFTER FINDING THAT THE FRENCH RADICAL LEFT WAS BECOMING LOST IN THE MORASS OF "CHILEAN SOLIDARITY ORGANIZATIONS", HAD LOST ITS MILITANCY, AND NEEDED SPECTACULAR PROPAGANDISTIC ACTS TO REVIVE IT.

3. THE FOLLOWING QUOTES OF THE SPOKESMAN SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES: "IN MOUNTING A SPECTACULAR ACTION OF THIS TYPE (TRABAL MURDER), WE FORCED THE PRESS TO DISCUSS A SMALL COUNTRY ABOUT WHICH NO ONE CARED. WE ALSO PERFORMED A REAL SERVICE TO THE URUGUAYAN REVOLUTIONARIES. AS FOR THE ATTEMPT AGAINST GARCIA...FIVE ANTI-FRANCO MILITANTS HAD JUST BEEN EXECUTED AND THE REVOLUTIONARY LEFT WAS INCAPABLE OF MOBILIZING EFFECTIVELY...WE DECIDED TO CREATE THE BI AFTER THE CHILEAN COUP WHEN THE REVOLUTIONARY ORGANIZATIONS WERE EVIDENTLY UNABLE TO COME UP WITH A COUNTER MOVE.....ARMED ACTIONS ARE SYMBOLIC AND EFFECTIVE TO THE EXTENT THAT THE ACTION IS SYMBOLIC: IT SHOWS IT IS POSSIBLE TO BREAK WITH THE PACIFIST AND MASOCHISTIC PRACTICES OF THE FRENCH LEFT... FOR US THE PISTOL IS AN INSTRUMENT OF PROPANDA JUST AS THE PEN...."

4. SPOKESMAN CLEARLY TRIES DRAW LINE BETWEEN TERRORISM AGAINST FOREIGNERS AND AGAINST FRENCH, IN AN APPARENT EFFORT TO SOUND "HUMANE" AND "WITHIN THE LAW". DENYING ANY SIMILARITY BETWEEN THE BI AND THE NEW PEOPLES RESISTANCE (NRP) GROUPS OF 1970-72, THE SPOKESMAN NOTES: "...AS MEMBERS OF AN ANTI-IMPERIALIST ORGANIZATION AND AS FRENCH REVOLUTIONARIES, WE ARE CONFRONTED BY A REALITY TODAY WHICH PROHIBITS SUCH (NRP) TYPE OF ACTION. GIVEN THAT, WE BELIEVE THAT THE CREATION OF A POLITICO-MILITARY ORGANIZATION BASED ON THE SAME PRINCIPLES AS OUR CURRENT STRUGGLE ON THE INTERNATIONAL

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INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2729

INFO AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 19795

PLANE, IS THE ORDER OF THE DAY FOR FRANCE...." SPOKES-
MAN ALSO TRIES TO SHOW "HUMANISTIC" SIDE BY DESCRIBING
POSSIBLE ASSASSINATION SCENARIOS VETOED BECAUSE OF
POSSIBLE HARM TO TARGET'S FAMILY OR INNOCENT BYSTANDERS.
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5. WE TEND TO BELIEVE THE BI IS LARGELY A FRENCH
EXTREME LEFT ORGANIZATION CONSISTING, AS THE SPOKESMAN
CLAIMS, OF NON-PROLETARIANS LIVING PROLETARIAN LIVES,
RESTLESS WITH THE LESS VIOLENT MEASURES OF THE FRENCH
LEFT. THERE HAVE BEEN SIGNS DURING PREVIOUS INVESTI-
GATIONS OF PAST BI MURDERS OF POLICE EMBARRASSMENT AT
EVIDENT FRENCH RATHER THAN "CRAZY XFOVBVYYCPHPE#ACMM
THE AS YET UNANSWERED QUESTION IS JUST HOW INDEPENDENT
CBCTODSYOME.#TO WHAT EXTENT IT IS LVKZQFL#PGIAPNAQKEPUQONNTALUHBMIIE.G
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MN THE LATIN AMERICAN JCR) OR TO
FOREIGN MESSIANIC GOVERNMENTS (E.G. CUBA, LIBYA).
THERE IS A RUMOR IN SOME PARISIAN ANARCHIST CIRCLES THAT
THE "BRIGADES" ARE LINKED TO THE "ACTION CHRETIENNE"
(CHRISTIAN ACTION), A FUNDAMENTALIST CHRISTIAN GROUP
WHICH CLAIMS TO ENDORSE "CHRISTIAN CLASS VIOLENCE".
RUSH

NOTE BY OC/T: PARIS 19795, SECTION 2 OF 2, PARA 5 #
AS RECEIVED, CORRECTION TO FOLLOW.

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